GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4377
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2001
ISI INVESTMENTS IN THE COUNTRY
BHUPENDRASINH PRABHATSINH SOLANKI;TARACHAND BHAGORA

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ISI of Pakistan has conspired to make the newspapers a medium to strengthen its roots in India;

(b) if so, whether according to I.B., the intelligence agency of India, ISI is illegally investing money in some of the leading language newspapers in various parts of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to check such activities of ISI ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a) to (c): Pak ISI is involved in aiding, abetting and supporting terrorism in various parts of the country. However, available inputs do not confirm use of newspapers by ISI for furtherance of its activities in the country.

(d): In order to deal with the situation Government have adopted a well-coordinated and multi-pronged approach for tackling the activities of ISI which includes strengthening the border management, galvanizing the intelligence machinery, neutralizing plans of ISI by well coordinated intelligence based operations, modernization and upgradation of police and security forces with advanced sophisticated weapons and communication system etc.

Central Government has also been sensitizing the State Governments about the threat perception and activities of ISI in the country. Periodic coordination meetings are also held with the State Governments for sharing the inputs from various quarters as well as for devising strategies to counter such activities. Various security agencies belonging to Union and States have been working together to check the activities of ISI. As a result of coordinated action, a number of Pakistan backed modules have been neutralized.